

NOV 2 1977



Deputy
~~OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING~~
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

28 OCT 1977

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School
of Medicine
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

We have been having a number of indirect contacts since you wrote to Frank Press on June 9, 1977. It is apparent that we need to be in direct contact.

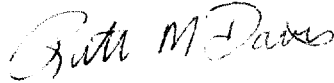
My office, with the endorsement of Bill Perry and of Harold Brown, is attempting to stimulate university science as a most important foundation for our continuing national security. A specific and separable program presently called the Defense Science and Engineering Program (DSEP) has been initiated with funding in FY 79 and later years. I have been talking with, but primarily listening to, individuals and groups from the academic community to get their ideas on this objective since I joined DDR&E on July 2, 1977. The groups include JASON and the Defense Science Board. I specifically asked Don Levine to attempt to have you attend the JASON meeting held on September 27, 1977 in my office. We were sorry you could not attend.

I thought the best way to bring you up-to-date on our Defense-University science projects would be to provide you with the briefing materials I am using on October 25th and October 27th in meetings with an informal advisory group and the Defense Science Board. The briefing text and copies of the visuals used are enclosed.

I agree with Vice President and Provost Wm Miller's suggestions on small meetings with faculty and university presidents. I had asked Bill McElroy to help me so do in the California area when I knew I was joining DDR&E. Bill is still planning to set up such a meeting. I have also asked two or three other university officials to help in the same way in other geographical areas.

I would certainly appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have either before or after you read the enclosed briefing material.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ruth M. Davis".

Ruth M. Davis
Deputy Director (Research
and Advanced Technology)

Enclosure

cc:
Frank Press
William McElroy
Don Levine
Leonard Weisberg